



File Code: 1950-1

Date: February 7, 2008

Dear Interested Party:

I am writing to inform you of my decision for the South Branch Kinzua Creek Project Environmental Assessment. On February 7, 2008, I signed the Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact (DN/FONSI) to implement Alternative 3. The DN/FONSI, Errata for the environmental assessment, and Appendix B: Forest Service Response to 2007 30-Day Comments are enclosed.

The DN/FONSI explains my rationale for reaching this decision. Appendix B includes a summary of comments received during the 2007 30-day comment period and our responses to these comments. Comments received on this action are part of the public record and are available for public inspection upon request.

This decision is subject to appeal pursuant to 36 CFR 215. Appeals may be filed by persons or non-Federal organizations or entities that provided comments or otherwise expressed interest in the proposed action by the close of the comment period (36 CFR 215.6). Appeals must meet content requirements of 36 CFR 215.14. An appeal, including attachments, must be filed (regular mail, fax, hand-delivery, express delivery, or messenger service) with the appropriate Appeal Deciding Officer (36 CFR 215.8) within 45 days following the date of publication of the legal notice. However, when the 45 day filing period would end on a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday, the filing time is extended to the end of the next Federal working day.

Written appeals shall be sent to Leanne Marten, Appeal Deciding Officer, Attn: Appeals and Litigation, USDA-Forest Service, Eastern Region, 626 E. Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53202. Appeals may be faxed to (414) 944-3963, ATTN: Appeal Deciding Officer, USDA Forest Service, Eastern Regional Office. Normal business hours (for hand-delivered appeals) are 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Monday-Friday. Electronic appeals should be directed to appeals-eastern-regional-office@fs.fed.us. Electronic appeals should be in TXT, RTF, DOC, PDF or other Microsoft Office-compatible formats.

The publication date of the legal notice in the newspaper of record (*The Kane Republican*, Kane, Pennsylvania) is the exclusive means for calculating the time to file an appeal (36 CFR 215.15(a)) and those wishing to appeal should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source.

If no appeal is received, implementation of this decision may occur on, but not before, five business days from the close of the appeal-filing period. If an appeal is received, implementation may occur on, but not before, the 15th business day following the date of appeal disposition. In



the event of multiple appeals of the same decision, the implementation date is controlled by the date of the last appeal decision.

The project file is available for review at the Marienville Office of the Marienville Ranger District. Copies of the environmental assessment, DN/FONSI, and other project documents are available upon request from: Marienville Ranger District, Allegheny National Forest, HC 2 Box 130, Marienville, PA 16239. The environmental assessment and DN/FONSI are also available for viewing on the Allegheny National Forest website at:

http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/forests/allegheny/projects/vegetative_management/

If you need any additional information on this project, please contact Kevin Treese of my staff at (814) 927-6628, ext. 124.

Sincerely,

/s/ Robert T. Fallon
ROBERT T. FALLON
District Ranger